



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Outback support

DPS Sgts. Mark Remsey and Faith Morgan flank the manager of a Phoenix-area Outback Steakhouse during a photo opportunity for an upcoming Special Olympics fund-raiser. The event will be an all-you-can-eat cookout at DPS headquarters April 2.

Department's budget proposal reflects modest 4.6% increase for fiscal year 2005

The Department will be seeking an overall budget for fiscal year 2005 of nearly \$153 million, a modest 4.6-percent increase over the fiscal year 2004 approved budget, during this year's regular session of the State Legislature.

Among major issues within the agency's budget request are 14 additional Highway Patrol officers, 200 replacement patrol cars and a replacement helicopter. Other major issues include the officer pay plan (see [story](#) on page 4), upgrades for the DPS microwave system, the modernization of technology used by ACJIS, and the consolidation of GITEM within the Criminal Investigations Division (CID).

Although the Department is seeking what it considers an appropriate increase to its overall budget, DPS Comptroller Phil Case said he expects another tight budget year as the Legislature grapples with a budget that is facing perhaps as much as a \$900 million shortfall.

"Although the economy in Arizona appears to be improving, the state's overall budget situation remains pretty bleak," Case said. "The Governor's Office and the Legislature may not agree on the size of the deficit, but they still are looking at a multi-hundred million dollar shortfall in revenues."

Case said the Joint Legislative Budget

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DPS organizers hoping to return to glory days of Torch Run fund-raising

Since the inception of the Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run 18 years ago, DPS has been well represented in this annual event that greatly benefits Special Olympics.

In fact, for many years, DPS was revered by the community for consistently contributing more money and "runners" to the unique charitable event than any other law enforcement organization in the state.

The past several Law Enforcement Torch Runs in Arizona have been a bit humbling for the agency, however, as DPS has watched other law enforcement organizations like the

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From Director
Dennis Garrett's

Vantage Point

Despite a late start, the State Employees Charitable Campaign this past fall at DPS was a success.

True, departmental goals for this campaign were modest, focusing more on participation than on dollars. But, thanks to the commitment and dedication of several DPS employees who coordinated this campaign, participation increased some 13 percent which coincided with a \$2,400 jump in employee contributions.

Although these increases may not be mind-boggling, I am confident that we will see these figures climb significantly next year as employees become more aware of what defines the annual State Employees Charitable Campaign.

Throughout my appointment at this agency, I have been constantly impressed by the continual giving nature exhibited by DPS employees. Giving isn't simply a seasonal issue at DPS, it's year around.

Some of the commitments are quite substantial and it would not be surprising if the combined contributions pledged by DPS employees stretched into the hundreds of thousands of dollars for the past calendar year.

Following is a short list of some charitable activities DPS employees have participated in and supported – W. Steven Martin Police Toy Drive, the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, the Special Olympics golf tournament in Tucson, the Cops Who Care program in Wickenburg, the Governors' Cup golf tournament which substantially benefits the Family Support Group, and the Metro District Barbecue for Special Olympics.

There also are a variety of benefits conducted each year by the Associated Highway Patrolmen of Arizona, the Fraternal Order of Police, the Latino Police Officers Association and the Arizona Women in Policing.

Then there's those who contribute to the 100 Club and on a regular basis to United Blood Services, especially when there is a critical shortage.

This list could go on and on. But I think the message is clear. DPS employees believe in the spirit of giving and consistently do so in a grand way throughout the year.

High prices of fuel serious but manageable problem at DPS

The continuing high price of fuel in Arizona has resulted in a fuel budget deficit for DPS in the neighborhood of half-a-million dollars.

DPS Comptroller Phil Case said the deficit is currently a "serious" but "manageable" problem.

Case said that much of the deficit was accumulated when fuel prices skyrocketed several months ago due to the rupture of the gas pipeline north of Tucson, the only line that feeds the Phoenix fuel market.

Thankfully, Case said the rupture of the gas pipeline took place very early in the fiscal year.

"Because the worst of this crisis took place early in the fiscal year, we will have more time to dig ourselves out of the budget deficit the crisis created," Case said.

Case said DPS would have been able to easily recover from the high fuel prices caused by the pipeline burst if prices would have quickly settled back to their "pre-pipeline break" levels.

However, when the pipeline was fixed, Case said fuel prices in Arizona did not return to previous levels. In fact, Case said fuel prices in Arizona are still very high in relation to prices at this time last year in the state.

Despite continuing high prices, Case says the situation is not all doom at this point.

"If fuel prices don't go any higher and things don't get any worse, I am confident that we have enough time to work our way out of this problem," said Case, adding that the fuel deficit at DPS currently resides within the budget of the Agency Support Division's Logistics Bureau.

If fuel prices happen to increase sharply again, Case said the agency would do everything it could to avoid cutting back on patrol activities by officers.

"Cutting back on patrol activities would be the very last resort and we would do everything we could to avoid such a scenario," Case said.

DPS officers and employees are being encouraged, however, to use common sense to help conserve fuel when working and pay more attention to fuel economy. Case said fuel deficits can increase quickly when fuel prices sharply increase simply because the agency purchases so much fuel.

In an average month, Case said DPS typically buys about 165,000 gallons of fuel to keep its fleet of patrol cars and other vehicles operating. Roughly 72 percent of the fuel purchased by DPS every day, Case said, is used in vehicles assigned to the agency's Highway Patrol Division.

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Employees are invited to submit story ideas or stories for publication. Stories or story ideas may be submitted to *The Digest* by mail, EMS or Telephone (602-223-2313).

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Department has full plate of projects for Arizona legislators

When the State Legislature begins developing a Capital Improvement Plan for the upcoming fiscal year, it can expect DPS to introduce a full plate of projects ranging from a much-needed new crime laboratory in Tucson to the replacement of three antiquated departmentally-owned residences in Ajo.

Those at the Facilities Management Bureau at DPS also realize that each of the Department's top five priorities may face an uphill battle for approval because of a potential near billion dollar shortfall state lawmakers are faced with while trying to balance a budget for fiscal year 2005.

Carl Tornambe, manager of the Facilities Management Bureau, said the crime lab tops the Department's wish list for capital improvement projects while the second priority involves new Highway Patrol offices for the Metro West and Metro East districts.

The third preference centers on expansion of Highway Patrol district offices in Yuma and Kingman. Priority four is a new Flagstaff complex which will centralize all DPS activities. Remote housing in Ajo is fifth on the list of capital improvement projects.

"In recent years, it has been difficult to get any capital improvement monies, but we are hoping that with an improving economy

we will be able to start moving on some or all of these proposals."

The \$11 million crime lab is the first step in a three-phase project the Department has designed in an effort to consolidate all DPS functions and structures within its current complex located on South Tucson Boulevard.

The 40,000-square-foot crime lab is the first step in a proposed Tucson complex project that could take three to four years to complete. The second phase would be the construction of an \$11 million 49,000-square-foot operations building which would allow personnel to move from today's operations building into a new facility. The third phase would be the \$2.5 million renovation of the current operations building.

Such a plan would place all primary Tucson DPS functions, except for Aviation, into one central location and would also allow the Telecommunications Bureau to move its operations from its current site on Ajo Way, Tornambe said.

To initiate the building process for two new district Highway Patrol offices in the Phoenix area, the Department first will need to have the funding to purchase two parcels of property, each two to three acres in size.

"If approved, the two district offices would be comparable to the one built in

Prescott," Tornambe said. "Considerable planning went into the Prescott facility and that building should be operationally efficient for many years.

Expansion of office space in Yuma and Kingman also is very important to the Department Tornambe said.

"Space is pretty tight at both facilities and has been for quite some time," Tornambe said. "We wouldn't have to purchase any additional land in order to expand. We already have the property we need to complete the project."

Tornambe said the proposed Flagstaff complex would consolidate all operations onto one site.

"The property we are reviewing is near the Flagstaff airport," Tornambe explained. "We have had meetings with the City of Flagstaff and everything at this time looks positive.

"If approved, all DPS functions in Flagstaff would be based there. In order to facilitate this project, we are looking at a lease proposition that would allow us to purchase at a later date."

In Ajo, the Department has plans to build three new modular remote housing units on DPS property that was purchased in 2002.

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Facilities deal for terrorism center saves DPS/FBI \$4.5 million

Give Carl Tornambe and his staff at the Facilities Management Bureau a penny and odds are they will find a way to get a quarter's worth of value for that one cent.

Last spring, the Department and the FBI jointly began searching for a site that could serve for what would eventually be called the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center.

Initially, the two law enforcement agencies tentatively settled on a facility just north of downtown Phoenix for their joint operations center.

But that was before Tornambe and staff became seriously involved in the process. Eventually, however, the FBI and DPS, with support from Facilities, decided on another site that once contracts are signed should save DPS and the FBI a combined \$4.5 million during the life of the five-year lease.

"The owners at the first site provided a proposal based on our occupancy needs," Tornambe said. "They would 'build out' the existing building to suit our needs. Then we would lease it from them at an estimated cost of about \$26 a square foot. Tenant improvement costs would be another \$1 million above that."

When approached about the proposal, Tornambe believed it to be too expensive. After conferring with Lt. Col. Norm Beasley, assistant director of the Criminal Investigations Division at DPS, and representatives from the FBI, those plans were scrapped.

Eventually, Grubb and Ellis Company, an internationally-respected commercial real estate advisory firm with an office in Phoenix, informed Facilities about a vacant facility in North Phoenix that formerly served as a bank processing center.

After viewing the property, Tornambe and staff began negotiations with the owners of this building located in an industrial park area. Through negotiations, Tornambe reached a lease agreement where CI and the FBI would pay a lease cost of \$14 a square foot for the first year, \$15 the second year, \$15.50 the third and fourth years, and \$16 the fifth year.

"The owners are also going to provide \$1 million for tenant improvements," Tornambe said. "Additionally, this is a full-service agreement meaning that the owners will also provide all maintenance with the exception of custodial. We will provide custodial because of security issues mandated

by CI and the FBI."

Compared to the downtown site, Tornambe estimates the Department and FBI will probably save some \$4.5 million during the life of the five-year lease contract for the 61,000-square-foot property.

"The owner also said as part of the deal he would give us an allowance for \$2.50 a square foot for electrical utilities," Tornambe said. "That equates to about \$150,000 per year. Anything over \$150,000 would be our responsibility."

Once completed and occupied sometime this spring, the facility west of I-17 between Bell and Greenway roads will provide office space for 200 FBI and CI employees. Among the DPS tenants at the new center will be personnel from the Criminal Investigation Research Unit, Investigation Bureau, Intelligence Bureau and Hazardous Materials.

Although the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center will have a joint operations center to handle terrorist-related emergencies, the Emergency Operations Center at DPS headquarters will remain on active duty for other types of emergencies.



RUSSELLE E. FIFER

Heart attack takes life of retired DPS Officer Russell Fifer

Services for Russell E. Fifer, 53, who served nearly 26 years as an officer with the Department, were Dec. 20 at the Arizona Community Church in Tempe.

Officer Fifer died Dec. 14 of a heart attack at a Chandler hospital.

Officer Fifer, a Chandler resident, began his career with the Department in August 1974 as a cadet officer. Upon graduation from the academy, the Yuma native was assigned to Yuma as a Highway Patrol officer. In 1979, he transferred to Casa Grande before moving to Mesa in 1998.

While assigned to District 6 in Casa Grande, Officer Fifer's district received the Director's Unit Citation in 1982 and 1987 as well as the Southern Division District of the Year Award in 1994 and 1995.

Officer Fifer, who earned an associate's degree in electrical mechanical engineering from Western College in Denver, received the Southern Division's Wildcat Award in 1990 for his drug interdiction efforts and for his work as a field training officer.

Officer Fifer, who also served as a member of the DPS honor guard, is survived by his wife, Jacqueline, and five children.



Compensation issues for both sworn, civilians will draw departmental support

As the 46th regular session of the Arizona State Legislature convenes, there are only a few bills that will merit serious attention from the Department.

But this doesn't mean DPS Lt. Jack Lane, the Department's legislative liaison, can rest his feet on the proverbial desktop. There's plenty to do and there are at least two items that are very important to the agency, especially its employees.

Both concern employee compensation issues and as these two items surface and make their rounds, Lane should be a very busy man.

This legislative session, it appears state lawmakers not only will address the Department's proposed officer parity pay package, but they will also review compensation issues concerning all state employees, including civilian employees at DPS.

"It appears Rep. Randy Graf (R-Green Valley) will introduce legislation in the state House of Representatives in regards to a DPS officer parity compensation package while Sen. Dean Martin (R-Phoenix) will do the same in the senate," Lane explained. "Eventually, if both bills move along appropriately, they will cross over at some point and meld as one or one will be dropped. Both Rep. Graf and Sen. Martin are committed to this bill."

Lane said the bill is designed to increase DPS officer compensation to market value. If approved, the proposal will increase salaries for all sworn classified positions at DPS to the average of the five highest salaries of city or county law enforcement organizations statewide.

Currently, sworn classified positions at DPS on the average are about 21 percent below the perceived market value, Lane said.

Along with the officers' parity bill, there are compensation issues concerning state employees who haven't seen a raise since receiving a \$1450 across-the-board pay increase more than two years ago.

Lane said the results of an evaluation, conducted by the Segal Group at the request of the Joint Legislative Study Committee on State Employee Compensation, indicates that state employees are being compensated about 23 percent below market value.

To reach market rates, the Segal Group, which specializes in benefits, compensation and human resources issues, said the state needs to increase salaries by 24 to 29 percent in order to bring its employees up to market value.

Lane said a bill aimed at remedying such

shortcomings along with variety of other state employee-related benefits issues probably will be introduced in the state House this legislative session.

"This committee is recommending to the governor, senate president and the speaker of the house a compensation package for all state employees," Lane said. "Believing that the state's total compensation package is not competitive with other states, the committee recommended that all employees be brought up to what it considers parity or market by fiscal year 2009."

"This is to be done in increments during the next five years with the first being effective this coming in fiscal year 2005. Of course, such recommendations don't mean it's a done deal, but obviously we will support all issues beneficial to our employees."

Although Lane realizes that the legislature is facing another tight funding year as it grapples with a near \$1 billion shortfall in its general budget, he is optimistic about these two compensation issues.

"On the sworn side, I think we made headway in this area last year," the veteran DPS lieutenant said. "I also feel optimistic about pay issues on the civilian side. I believe the legislature recognizes the poor level of compensation in regards to state employees and that something positive needs to be done."

Lane added that the study committee also assessed issues other than compensation concerns, including health packages along with various benefits and paid leave policies.

"There are issues outside of the compensation proposal that could be presented to the legislature," Lane said.

Lane said the group also recommended an additional paid day off, perhaps in the form of a floating holiday; an increase in the state's contribution to the retirement benefit; and an increase in the amount of state-paid employee life insurance.

"Knowing that pay issues on both the sworn and civilian sides are drawing legislative attention is good news for everybody at the Department," Lane said. "I'm optimistic that something positive will come from this."

Lane said among other priorities the Department is keeping tabs on funding for the Sex Offender Compliance Unit and reciprocity laws involving the state's concealed weapons law.

"As for concealed weapons, we need to clarify some side issues," Lane said. "Our

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Assistant director meets childhood, leadership idol Gale Sayers

Rod Covey was like the kid in the proverbial candy store recently when he met Gale Sayers, one of his childhood idols.

When the football hall of fame running back made an appearance in Phoenix to promote his charities, Covey was ready with memorabilia in hand.

The assistant director of the Agency Support Division at DPS had the former Kansas University and Chicago Bears star autograph a football, personalized license plate, picture, helmet and a book.

The book, "I Am Third" is based on Sayers' credo of "The Lord is first, my friends and family are second, and I am third."

It chronicles Sayers' touching and emotional relationship with cancer-stricken teammate Brian Piccolo who eventually loses a well-documented courageous battle against the disease.

Following Piccolo's death, Sayers began writing his book with Al Silverman. Eventually, the book became a movie titled "Brian's Song" featuring little-known actors at the time, James Caan as Piccolo and Billy Dee Williams as Sayers.

While in high school in Tucson that November night in 1971, Covey watched the made-for-television movie that dramatized the relationship developed and shared by the two.

"That movie really had a lasting impression on me," Covey said.

"Since the time I first saw it, I have tried to structure my life along this philosophy. While I had never met Gale Sayers prior to this, I was really impressed that someone could lead their life this way.

"That's what I strive for and I am the first to admit I am unable to do it all of the time, but most of the time it's not from lack of effort."

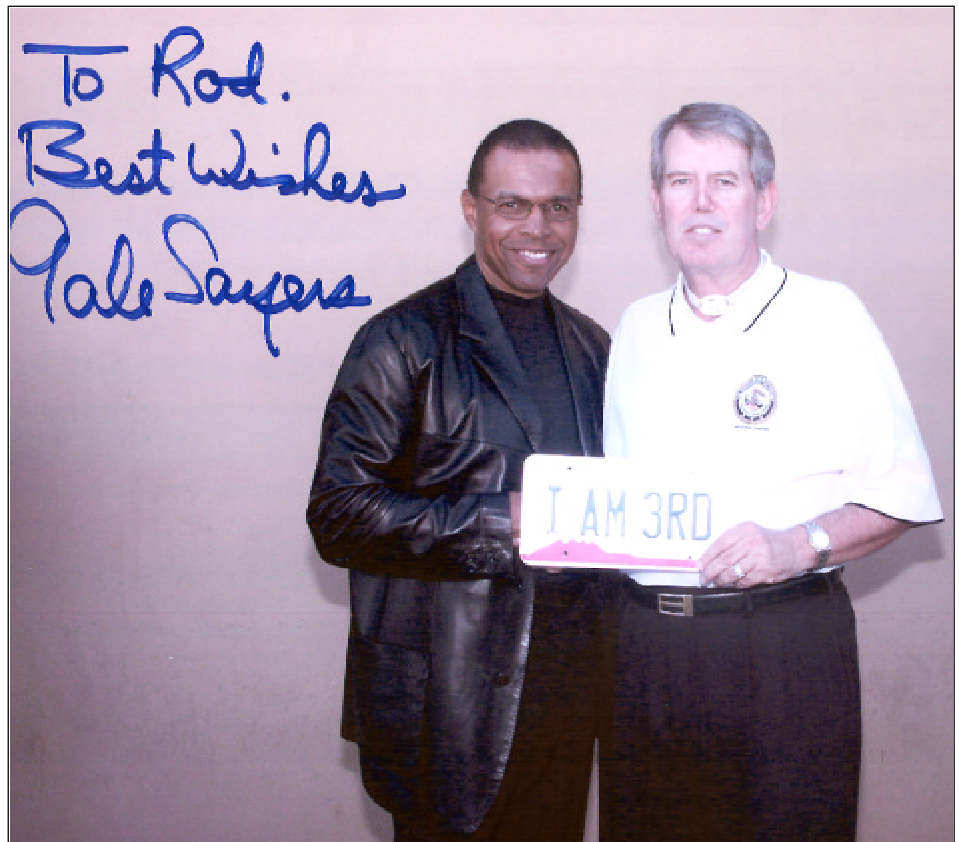
Covey is so impressed with Sayers' philosophy that it's on display every time his SUV hits the road. The license plate on Covey's vehicle reads "I AM 3RD."

"He also autographed the second plate, the one not on the vehicle," Covey said. "Both Sayers and his manager chuckled and remarked that this was a first."

Covey, who conducts seminars and classes on the principles and philosophies of leadership, says he will incorporate some of his new Sayers' memorabilia into his presentations.

"I have used his book in my teachings probably for the past seven or eight years," the assistant director remarked.

"When I address the concepts of leadership, I stress the philosophy that to be successful as a leader, you have to place the



Football legend

Rod Covey holds the license plate that football legend Gale Sayers autographed for him during a visit to the Phoenix area. Covey, assistant director of the Agency Support Division at DPS, utilizes principles outlined in Sayers' book "I Am Third" to emphasize key points in his leadership classes.

needs of other people above your own."

As for Sayers, his National Football League career was brief cut short by a series of serious knee injuries that eventually required six operations.

In 1970, because of his comeback from injuries, the Professional Football Writers Association named him the NFL's "Most Courageous Player."

At the time, Sayers said he felt the award more appropriately belonged to close friend and teammate Brian Piccolo. About a month after the presentation, Piccolo died.

"It's touching that while receiving such an honor he would offer words of praise for

his friend," Covey said. "It certainly reflects his philosophy of 'I Am Third.'"

Since retiring, Sayers, who became a successful businessman following his NFL career, has been quite active in a variety of charities – the Marklund Children's Home for children with severe developmental disabilities; The Cradle, an Illinois-based adoption service; BBF Family Services, a social service program in Chicago; and various other youth-oriented activities.

He also lends his name for a golf tournament that raises funds for the Kansas University School of Education.

Ana Velarde tops Department's promotional list for administrative supervisor

Following an examination process, the Law Enforcement Merit System Council established a promotional eligibility list for the position of administrative supervisor.

First on the list released Dec. 5 was Ana Velarde. She is followed by Dennis

Puruleski, James Foley, Rene Wilson, Michele Johnson, Michael Ruiz, Kim Karbon-Sines, James Hoyt, Patricia Repine, Johnette Lundy, Bonnie Crow and Robert Reddington.

Department receives prestigious award for GIS applications

This past summer, a highly-esteemed company considered to be the world leader in the development of geographic information system (GIS) software and technology honored DPS by presenting the agency with one of its most prestigious honors -- the Special Achievement in GIS Award.

The company, called ESRI, presents the award each year to an elite group of organizations that, in the company's words, "have embraced GIS technology to best serve the world."

More than 100,000 organizations from various countries that use GIS technology, including major companies and foreign governments, are nominated for the award each year. Only 100, however, are selected.

All award winners are hand picked by Jack Dangermond who is considered to be the "father" of GIS technology.

Dangermond, ESRI's president and founder, selected DPS to receive the award because it swiftly transformed itself from a public service organization with absolutely no GIS utilization four years ago to an organization now recognized throughout the United States for its resourceful and highly-beneficial use of the technology.

DPS first started using GIS technology, which can be described as an information system for creating, managing and using geographic data, slightly more than five years ago when it was introduced to the agency by employee Sharon Nicholson.

Since introducing the highly-celebrated technology to DPS, Nicholson has been using it to create thousands of what are essentially PC-enabled "smart maps" for the agency and various other public safety organizations in Arizona.

The dynamic, detailed maps she creates, which are used in both electronic and printed formats, have been helping DPS and other public safety organizations fulfill their initiatives in a safer, smarter and more pragmatic fashion.

Using GIS software and tools, Nicholson is able to pump vast amounts of data compiled by DPS and other organizations into complex mapping programs.

The results of her work are powerful visuals that often reveal intriguing geographical relationships and patterns previously buried in piles of data.

"When data is presented graphically and spatially on a map instead of in endless lines of text, more things tend to come to light," said Nicholson, whose "single sheet" printed maps can be as large as 5 feet wide and 100 feet long.

The relationships and patterns that are

revealed in Nicholson's maps and visuals have helped DPS plan effectively for emergency responses, in determining mitigation priorities, analyzing historical events, and preventing future events such as officer injuries and highway traffic collisions.

Many of her maps have aided DPS and others in the criminal justice community to better analyze historical events such as critical incidents by displaying, sequentially, the location of people and things during an event.

Her maps may be most valuable to the everyday operations of the agency, though, when they are used to help DPS personnel and other agencies better prepare for future events such as high-risk search warrant executions, undercover operations, narcotics cases, aviation missions, court cases, and occasionally, dignitary-protection assignments such as presidential visits.

When used to help teams of officers prepare for the execution of a high-risk search warrant or undercover operation, Nicholson's data-laden maps reveal some of the dangers of a scene and help personnel perform risk assessments prior to embarkment.

Over the past few years, Nicholson has also been tasked with producing specialized maps of internal structures and street layouts for the U.S. Secret Service prior to President George W. Bush's occasional visits to Arizona.



DPS receives international honor

On behalf of the Department, Sharon Nicholson, GIS coordinator within the Investigation Bureau at DPS, accepted a special achievement award from ESRI President Jack Dangermond. The Department was honored for its innovative use of geographic information software (GIS) designed by ESRI.

Furthermore, Nicholson also produced maps that greatly assisted the heightened, multi-agency security effort at the 2001 World Series at Bank One Ball Park in downtown Phoenix.

Her experience with GIS has made her the "go to" person for law enforcement mapping in Arizona because she can quickly produce a map directly relevant to the situation at hand.

Plus, if Nicholson doesn't already have the necessary geographic information to pump into a map, she knows where and how to obtain it.

Many of her maps are also used at DPS in various Internet/Intranet mapping applications such as the Department's Web site for Commercial Vehicles and the new Sex Crimes Analysis Network (SCAN).

SCAN, designed to help police track sexual assaults and other related crimes, features maps that reveal geographic patterns and trends as they relate to sex crimes within Arizona. It is linked to the FBI's Violent Crime Apprehension Program (VICAP) database.

Following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C., Nicholson has also been using GIS to greatly enhance the domestic preparedness and homeland security efforts of several public safety organizations throughout Arizona.

She said GIS can be used to enhance homeland security in a multitude of ways, especially by pinpointing potential terrorist targets and integrating other data (water supplies, population density, streets, etc.) to develop risk assessment and disaster planning.

As a result of her quickly advancing utilization of the technology, Nicholson is now considered one of the state's top GIS experts.

She is frequently called upon to assist other public service organizations throughout the state, especially small police departments, in starting their own GIS programs. Nicholson is also the president of the governor-appointed Arizona Geographic Information Council (AGIC) which is responsible for coordinating the development, management and sharing of GIS and geographic data in Arizona.

The mission of the council is very important, Nicholson said, because just about every governmental agency, business, private utility, and institution in Arizona maintains some data of geographical information that would be beneficial to public safety if

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Inside DPS

BIRTHS

Elsa Louise Hanson – 6 lbs., 9 oz. 19 3/4 inches. Born Nov. 19 at Rehoboth Hospital in Gallup, N.M. to Officer Corey Hanson and wife, Jenni. Corey is a Highway Patrol officer assigned to District 3, Sanders.

Mireyah Fern Wood – 7 lbs., 14 oz. Born Nov. 23 at home to Officer Mike Wood and wife, Angela. Mike is a Highway Patrol officer assigned to District 11, Bee-line Highway.

Brady Reid Clark – 7 lbs., 3 oz., 19 inches. Born Nov. 24 at Havasu Regional Hospital to Officer Jamie Clark and wife, Freida. Jamie is a Highway Patrol officer assigned to District 1, Kingman.

Joseph Todd Herrick – 8 lbs., 2 oz. 20 inches. Born Nov. 27 at University Medical Center to Officer Todd Herrick and wife, Corrina. Todd is a detective assigned to Tucson Intelligence.

Kirsten Maria Nielson – 5 lbs., 11 oz., 19.5 inches. Born Nov. 29 at St. Rose de Lima Hospital, Henderson, Nev., to Officer Mark Nielson and wife, Jodi. Mark is a Highway Patrol officer assigned to D-1, St. George, Utah.

Skylar Nikki Skelton – 5 lbs., 9 oz. 18 inches. Born Nov. 29 at Scottsdale Shea Medical Center to Officer

Les Skelton and wife, Steffani. Les is a Highway Patrol officer assigned to HP Metro West while Steffani is an intelligence research specialist assigned to the Criminal Intelligence Research Unit.

Jenna Peterson – 7 lbs., 1 oz. Born Dec. 3 at Banner Desert Medical Center, Mesa, to Officer Bryce Peterson and wife, Andrea. Bryce is a Highway Patrol officer assigned to D-6 Casa Grande.

OBITUARIES

Mike McGuire, 41, passed away in Albuquerque on Nov. 16. He was the son of retired DPS Officer George McGuire, Winslow.

Jose Leal Jr., 35, of Avondale, passed away in Goodyear on Nov. 23. Mr. Leal was the son of Ramona Silva, a criminal records specialist assigned to the Criminal Records History Section.

Dewey Ray Philpot, 49, of Miami, passed away Nov. 24 in Scottsdale. He was the brother of retired DPS Sgt. John Philpot and uncle of Highway Patrol Sgt. John Philpot, Jr., Metro West.

CORRECTIONS

In the December Letters section of the *Digest*, it was Fran Harriman not Frank Harriman who assisted Tennessee authorities with an investigation that had Arizona ties.

SECC campaign at DPS achieves goal

When Phil Case and Jennie Edwards took over as coordinators for last fall's State Employees Charitable Campaign (SECC) at DPS, they set a modest goal.

"Our goal was to simply increase participation," Case said. "We focused more on participation – getting more people involved in the program than dollars. If you have more participation, it stands to reason that there will be more donations, thus more money."

Mission accomplished.

During the past drive, participation in SECC at DPS jumped 13 percent compared to last year with contributions increasing by about five percent.

"This year, we had 282 employees participate in the drive compared to 249 last year," Case said. "These 282 employees pledged \$47,518 compared to last year's \$45,186."

"In next year's campaign, we will continue to focus on educating DPS employees about SECC. Jennie, myself and our campaign volunteers agree that the more informed employees are, the more participation there will be."

Case, who is the DPS comptroller, said another key ingredient to the success of this year's campaign conducted in October was the "hard" work of the SECC volunteers at DPS.

"They honestly were a great group to work with," Case said. "They were very energetic, determined and motivated."

DPS SECC volunteers included Shannon Amos, Kristin Herold, Karri Gras, Sgt. William Duff, Evelyn Jablonski, Ana Velarde, Linda Diaz, Officer Marty Harnisch, Robert Villescas, Michelle Blunk, Sgt. Bob Mitchell, Georgene Ramming, Sgt. Ed Sharpsteen and Lt. Dave Myers.

"It was because of their efforts that we topped last year's pledges despite a two-week late start," Case said in reference to the tardy distribution of materials which hampered the initial stages of the campaign. "We probably would have done better if we hadn't lost two weeks waiting for our materials."

Case said District 1 garnered honors for the highest employee participation in the Highway Patrol Division while the Rocky Mountain Information Network (RMIN) was tops in the Criminal Investigations Division. Best in the Agency Support Division was Financial Services while Scientific Analysis was first in the Criminal Justice Support Division.

As for next year, Case said it wouldn't be surprising if DPS' participation in SECC continues to improve.

"We have some additional ideas we plan to implement and we probably won't face another delay in receiving the materials we need to conduct the campaign," Case said. "I also firmly believe that employees at DPS are very giving people and will continue to contribute."

DPS firearms instructors do well at competitions

Four DPS firearms instructors from various parts of the state traveled to Nevada to compete in the Reno Infinity Open.

The competitive shooting match, consisting of 10 different courses of fire or "stages," was sponsored by SVI Infinity, a manufacturer of competition pistols and featured some of the top shooters in the nation.

When the event concluded, DPS Officer John Mouret had earned \$500 for finishing seventh among 89 competitors in the Limited Division.

Mouret is assigned to the Southwest Border Alliance in Yuma.

Another DPS officer, Steve Shroufe, also competed in the Limited Division and finished in 13th place. Shroufe is assigned to the Highway Patrol Division in Flagstaff.

Two other DPS competitors in the event, Sgt. Gary Ciminski and Officer Jack Jarvis, participated in the Limited 10 Division finishing ninth and 15th respectively.

Both are assigned to the Highway Patrol in Springville.

Each stage in the event was different and tested the shooters' abilities to hit targets in a variety of conditions.

Moving targets, shooting while moving, partially concealed targets, shooting from different positions, and negotiating obstacles while firing were skills required to complete many of the stages.

Each shooter was timed with faster times earning higher scores. Points were deducted for poor hits, misses, hitting hostage targets and procedural violations.

The four DPS participants agreed that competitive combat shooting, including this match and others like it, add to their abilities as firearms instructors at DPS.

"You are able to observe a variety of shooting styles and techniques that you can bring back to the officers you teach," Jarvis said. "Matches such as these also address areas that are common problems for all shooters, not just police officers. When we attend these matches we learn methods to help our officers overcome similar problems."

In a separate competition that took place in Phoenix recently, the Arizona 400, DPS Officer John Dover, another firearms instructor at DPS, came away as the overall winner of the Limited Division winning a .45-caliber 1911 pistol for his efforts.

'Rule 15' to significantly impact law enforcement activities

Changes to discovery "Rule 15" of the Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure became effective Dec. 1 and should significantly impact the way law enforcement in Arizona goes about its business.

Lisa Stelly-Wahlin, an attorney with the Attorney General's Office assigned to DPS, said there are a number of changes that will significantly impact the Department and the state's criminal justice process.

"One change requires prosecutors to disclose all reports in their possession at the time of charging to the defense at the time of arraignment," Stelly-Wahlin said. "The effect of this on law enforcement is that the prosecutor will now have to have all reports in order to charge. Before, supplemental reports sometimes could arrive later, or in some cases, county prosecutors could present a case before a grand jury using only a summary report rather than having all reports in their possession."

Stelly-Wahlin added that changes in Rule 15 means additional information, not previously required, will also have to be disclosed.

"These changes require the prosecution to disclose 9-1-1 tapes if relevant to the case and if requested by the defense," the AG attorney explained. "The impact on law enforcement based on this change is that if an officer believes a 9-1-1 tape is relevant to the case he or she is investigating, the officer should take steps to ensure that the tape is preserved so if requested by the defense, it is available."

The changes in Rule 15 also impact interviews and depositions, Stelly-Wahlin said.

"Previously, if an officer testified at a preliminary hearing, the officer could not be ordered later to complete a deposition or interview if the defense attorney so requested," Stelly-Wahlin commented.

"Now, if an officer testifies at a preliminary hearing, he or she may be required to submit to another defense interview or deposition. If the preliminary hearing was limited to the issue of probable cause, then the judge can order the officer at a later time to be available for another interview or deposition with the defense counsel."

Stelly-Wahlin emphasized that should an officer have a conversation with the prosecution about that interview, to "make sure that the interview/deposition is limited to areas not covered during the preliminary hearing so that the officer isn't talking about the same things twice."

Previous rules did not require officers to keep their hand-written notes if they were

substantially incorporated into their report. Such isn't the case today.

"This rule has just been tightened and now officers have to incorporate those notes into their reports within 20 working days," Stelly-Wahlin stated. "However, if officers have an electronic recording of the interview, whether it is video or audio, then the hand-written notes don't have to be kept because there is an additional record of that interview."

Stelly-Wahlin said another change in Rule 15 addresses final deadlines for disclosure from the state to the defense.

"The exceptions to these final deadlines are scientific reports," the AG counsel said. "In order to get a waiver for the final deadline, the state needs to file with the court an affidavit from a criminalist saying that extra time is needed and why the extra time is re-

quired to analyze whatever evidence is in question. Court approval is needed before the deadline can be expanded."

Stelly-Wahlin said officers may face contempt of court charges if they don't comply with the Rule 15 changes.

"Penalties for lack of compliance with discovery rules by the officer could be the most important change," Stelly-Wahlin explained.

"Discovery rules have also been extended to law enforcement agencies. If the officer or state doesn't comply with these guidelines, one remedy that the court has is contempt. If an individual officer doesn't provide information to the defense in a timely manner, the court can hold the officer and the prosecutor in contempt."

Stelly-Wahlin can be contacted at either 602-542-8529 or 602-223-2406.

Two DPS officers injured in unrelated late-November motorcycle crashes

An on-duty Phoenix Metro DPS motorcycle officer suffered a broken ankle while pursuing a violator while an off-duty Highway Patrol officer in Page suffered severe injuries when his personal motorcycle was involved in a crash.

Motor Officer Jim Campbell suffered his ankle injury during a Nov. 27 pursuit on the 202 in Chandler near McClintock Drive. The Duty Office said Campbell was changing lanes when the front wheel of the motorcycle "locked up" causing the motorcycle to go down on its left side.

Following the noontime crash, Campbell was transported to a Scottsdale hospital for treatment of his injuries.

On Nov. 29, Page Highway Patrol Officer Bob Delander suffered numerous serious injuries when his personal motorcycle crashed within the city limits of Page.

Following the mishap, Delander was airlifted to the Flagstaff Medical Center where he was treated for eight broken ribs, several damaged vertebrae, a severe concussion and other internal injuries.

Upon arrival at the Flagstaff hospital, he was placed into an intensive care unit where he remained for about a week. He was released from the hospital Dec. 8 and is recovering at home.

Sgt. Dennis Bratcher of Page said Delander was heading north on Lake Powell Boulevard when the motorcycle veered off the road for reasons unknown. After leaving the road, the motorcycle then struck a large

rock. Bratcher said the Page Police Department is investigating the crash.

DPS at a Glance

A DPS canine team placed fifth in the 15th annual Tucson K9 Trials Nov. 15-16.

Participating on the DPS team were Sgt. Angel Leos along with Officers Marty Lepird and Keith Duckett and their canines.

Lepird and his canine took fifth in agility and obedience competition.

Some 75 agencies from throughout the United States and Europe participated in the event.

The theft of a "load" of undocumented illegals from a smuggler by another resulted in a shootout on Interstate 10 near Casa Grande on Nov. 4, according to a Highway Patrol Division monthly report.

After losing their human cargo near Marana, the "coyotes" pursued the other smugglers and opened fire on the occupants of two vehicles striking the vehicles 28 times, killing the driver and three occupants of that vehicle. A second vehicle was also hit by gunfire but escaped.

DPS officers stopped the suspect vehicle on I-10 near Elliott road, arresting four suspects, including a woman with a gunshot wound in a leg.

How to contact State Legislature

Following are telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for members of the Arizona State Legislature. All phone numbers have a 602 area code unless otherwise noted.

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The War on Drugs

Three DPS officers assisted the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) agents by stopping a Toyota Camry believed to be transporting an undetermined amount of cocaine.

The officers – Clifford Diaz, Robert Miranda and Frank Torres – did locate the cocaine hidden in two unusual containers.

When first notified of the vehicle, the officers were told that the suspect might be armed so the officers, with assistance from DPS Ranger and Tucson police, conducted a high-risk stop Dec. 13 within the city limits of Tucson. Inside the Camry, the officers found two fire extinguishers filled with cocaine.

Prior to this stop, ATF agents had stopped two other vehicles and seized four more fire extinguishers filled with cocaine. Following the DPS stop, the suspect, cocaine and vehicle were released to the ATF.

If this suspect was heading for a lunch break, DPS Highway Patrol Officer Mace Craft provided him with a free one at the Coconino County jail in Flagstaff.

While patrolling I-40 near Flagstaff at about noon Dec. 9, Craft said he stopped a 1996 Dodge for a traffic violation. During the stop, Craft told the Duty Office that he learned that there was a felony warrant on the suspect. After arresting the man, Craft found 3.5 pounds of cocaine inside the vehicle.

He also seized \$172 in cash during the booking process.

Some 10 days earlier, Craft seized three pounds of methamphetamine during a con-

sent search following a traffic stop on I-17 about 30 miles south of Flagstaff. Craft said he found the contraband concealed within a false compartment inside the dash.

A traffic stop less than a mile from DPS state headquarters in Phoenix Dec. 8, led to the confiscation of 460 pounds of marijuana.

Detective Robert Bowers spotted the northbound vehicle on the Black Canyon Freeway and with assistance from Highway Patrol officers stopped the vehicle after it exited onto Thomas Road. During the stop, the officers found the contraband and arrested the suspect.

For Flagstaff DPS Officer Anthony Gerard, December wasn't a bad month. The same can't be said for two motorists he stopped within a week of each other.

First was an I-40 traffic stop near Flagstaff Dec. 7 that led to the seizure of 504 pounds of marijuana. Gerard told the Duty Office that he found the pot in the bed of the 2000 Chevrolet pickup truck which also was seized. The suspect was arrested and booked into the Coconino County jail.

Then a week later, Gerard stopped a SUV for speeding on I-40 east of Flagstaff. After probable cause was established, Gerard and his canine, Kai, searched the vehicle and found 30 pounds of methamphetamine. Gerard told the Duty Office that he arrested the driver and seized a 1999 Dodge Durango along with nearly \$800 in cash.

Expired license plate tags proved to be a Christmas grinch for this suspected drug

runner who said he was just trying to make some money to purchase presents for his children.

DPS Highway Patrol Officer Kevin McNichols said he stopped the 1988 Ford pickup for an expired state of Sonora, Mexico, license plate on I-19 about 35 miles north of Nogales. While conversing with the motorist during the Dec. 6 traffic stop, McNichols said he could easily smell the scent of marijuana.

This scent led him to the discovery and seizure of some 400 pounds of marijuana. After arresting the motorist, McNichols also impounded a 1988 Ford pickup truck.

A DPS team effort proved to be this suspect's downfall.

After initiating a traffic stop Dec. 5 on I-17 near Cordes Junction, DPS Highway Patrol Officer James Haas summoned the assistance of DPS Canine Officer John McFarland and his dog, Angel. Upon arrival, Angel alerted providing the officers with probable cause. During their search of the 2003 GMC Yukon, the officers found five pounds of cocaine and a .380 semi-automatic pistol.

Also assisting in the bust was DPS Detective George Manera.

Slightly more than two weeks earlier, Haas arrested two suspects for narcotics violations following another I-17 traffic stop near Cordes Junction.

Haas said a consent search led him to a small amount of marijuana and 14 pounds of cocaine. In addition to the narcotics, Haas also seized a 1997 Ford Taurus and \$667 in U.S. currency.

This certainly is one of the more unusual drug busts of 2003.

While patrolling I-10 near the California state line Dec. 2, DPS Canine Officer David Blue stopped a vehicle for speeding.

Blue didn't find any marijuana, cocaine or meth inside the vehicle, but he did locate 10,000 various prescription pills, including 2,000 Viagra tablets. The driver was arrested on various drug-related charges.

Speeding on I-17 about 30 miles south of Flagstaff wasn't the smartest thing for this trucker. As a result of his disregard for the posted speed limit, he now faces various charges relating to transporting marijuana.

DPS Highway Patrol Officer Ken Carlson told the Duty Office that he stopped the 1996 Kenworth tractor-trailer on Nov. 22. Following the stop, Carlson said he found 668 pounds of marijuana which was seized along with the vehicle and \$3,312 in cash.



GIS award ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

pooled and shared.

"A goal of AGIC is to work with various groups to promote the sharing and building of geographic information at the local level and, in the event of an emergency, ensure that those in public safety have immediate access to the shared info," Nicholson said.

Thankfully, Nicholson said great strides have been made getting organizations to share their proprietary geographical information with each other so it can be accessed in an emergency or when problems arise.

She said GIS technology makes the sharing of proprietary data among various organizations easier because it provides tools for integrating and securing data.

In the very near future, Nicholson will also be involved in the input of geographical information into the Department's new Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD).

The system, soon to be installed in all three of DPS' operational communications centers, relies heavily on the input of geographical data to function properly.

Her accomplishments with GIS have not gone unnoticed during the past few years as several organizations have honored her and DPS for using the technology to greatly enhance public safety.

Standing out among all of the accolades, however, was the Special Achievement in GIS Award DPS received from ESRI this past summer.

"It's an extreme honor knowing I played

a role in helping DPS receive this award from ESRI," Nicholson said. "I usually don't get too moved by awards or wrapped up in the pursuit of them. The case was very different with the ESRI award, though, because it was presented by the company that develops much of the technology and methodology I use to do my job. By receiving the award, we know the company thinks DPS is putting their developments to good use. I am extremely proud to have played a role in helping DPS receive the honor from ESRI."



Who Is She?

The radiant smile she had as a young girl never has left as she brings it with her to work each day as a civilian employee with the Department.

Who Is She? Guess correctly and win either a denim or polo shirt courtesy of the Associated Highway Patrolmen of

Nicholson and several other DPS employees assigned to the Department's Criminal Investigations Division proudly accepted ESRI's Special Achievement Award on behalf of DPS in July.

The award was presented at the company's 23rd annual User Conference in San Diego in front of thousands of the world's top GIS professionals who were attending the event. Dangermond personally presented the award to each winner.

Arizona.

Interdepartmental e-mail entries should be addressed to Art Coughanour, badge no. 3131. Please remember to include your badge number with your entry.

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Interdepartmental mail:

The Digest, mail drop 1200

Snail mail:

The Digest

Arizona DPS

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Winner of the November contest was Lynette Fisher of Flagstaff OpComm. Since no one correctly identified her, she's the winner of a polo or denim shirt offered by the AHPA.

A Christmas act of kindness reminds officer of the good people

By DPS Officer Jerry Oldsen

I've been a Highway Patrolman for 26 years. Those years have been both great experiences and, at times, a job I wish I had never undertaken.

I was working construction on State Route 51 in Phoenix during the early morning hours of Dec. 14. My job was to make sure no one drove through the barricades and entered the freeway where construction workers were working.

I had watched people try to drive around the barricades, stop and try to figure out what the barricades meant and drive the wrong way on a one-way street to try and get out of the construction area. I marveled at the arrogance and ignorance of the motoring public. I wondered how some of these people found their way home each and every day.

At about 3:30 a.m., I watched a vehicle pull up to the barricades and stop. I assumed the driver would figure out what was required of him and then drive on. When the

headlights went out, I became suspicious and drove to the intersection to investigate. When I stopped my patrol car, a man in his mid forties got out. He was dressed nicely and was neat and orderly. He approached my vehicle, holding something in his hands. I placed my hand on the butt of my weapon and felt its comforting presence.

"Can I help you," I asked.

"No, I brought you a cup of coffee," he said.

He then held out a cup of coffee, "I don't know how you like it so I brought some sugar and creamer too".

"I pass by here every night at this time and I see you sitting up there. I got to thinking that this must be a cold and lonely job, I bet he could use a cup of coffee on nights like this. So here you are officer, and thank you for doing the job that you do."

In the 26 years I have served with the Patrol, I have never had anyone offer me an act of kindness like this.

"Have a good night officer," he said as he got back in his car and drove off into the night.

I stood there watching his tail lights disappear, thinking that was one of the nicest things I've had happen to me in a long time. Thank you for giving me the gift of realizing that there are still good people in this troubled world.

Have a good night sir, and thank you.

Numbers change

Most offices at the Arizona State Legislature now have new telephone numbers.

As a result of the switch to an Internet-based calling system, all telephone numbers to the Legislature will change to a 926 prefix, replacing the previous 542 prefix. In most cases, the last four digits of a telephone number will remain the same.

The change is expected to save the legislature some \$2 million over the next 10 years.

Pay issues ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

state's reciprocity guidelines with other states lack direction. There are some very specific guidelines, but there are some grey areas that need to be addressed when it comes to reciprocal concealed weapon agreements with other states.

"Currently, six states meet all Arizona state law criteria, but there's another 23

states that we think also meet these standards. This puts us in a liability-type situation, if wrong in our assumption. We need the legislature to set direct guidelines in order to solidify our concealed weapons laws."

As for Sex Offender Compliance Unit funding, Lane said problems stem from a bill passed last year which took away appropriated funding for that unit and required DPS to charge a registration fee for sex offenders.

"The assumption was that since sex offenders have to register annually with the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD), MVD could collect the fee," Lane said. "That fee then would be used to support the unit's operation. However, there was no statutory language giving MVD authority to make that collection. There also is no legal language addressing a penalty phase should such a fee not be paid."

"We have recommended that the legislature give us an annual appropriation for the unit because we are really hindered when we have to depend on funding sources that are less than dependable. In essence, we are depending on sex offenders to pay their fees so that our unit can run appropriately."

"Unfortunately, this forces the Criminal Justice Support Division to take funding from other sources. It's a planning nightmare."

DPS assists in drug bust that nets pot, \$594,227 in cash

DPS detectives assigned to the MAN-TIS Major Violators Unit in Tucson, in conjunction with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and Sarasota County, Fla., Sheriff's Office, arrested four subjects upon their arrival at a Scottsdale airport in a private jet Nov. 22.

DPS Sgt. Mark Morlock said the arrests stemmed from a joint investigation into a marijuana-trafficking organization that was shipping and transporting tons of marijuana from Tucson to Florida and New York.

A search warrant executed on the private jet yielded \$406,727 in U.S. currency and \$8,500 in blank money orders, Morlock said, adding that a 9mm semiautomatic handgun also was seized along with body armor.

Search warrants executed simultaneously in Florida yielded an additional three arrests along with the seizure of 150 pounds of marijuana, \$179,000 in cash and three vehicles, Morlock revealed.

Assisting in the investigation was Tucson Intelligence, the DPS Phoenix HIDTA Task Force and police officers from Phoenix and Scottsdale.

Projects ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

These units would replace two single-white trailers and an old ADOT house, each more than 30 years old, including one that was first used in 1960.

Each new housing unit would be 1,300 square feet with three bedrooms, Tornambe said.

Budget ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Committee staff has projected statutory spending – increases for inflation, growth and mandated programs written into law – for the fiscal year 2005 general fund will be \$900 million in the red and that could impact all budget requests.

All of the Department's increase in its budget request will come from funding sources other than the general fund.

"The Governor's Office directed state agencies to not ask for any increases in general fund monies," Case said. "Of course, we abided by this so our 2005 general fund budget request of \$29.5 million will remain the same as last year's. Most of the appropriations we receive come from Highway Users Revenue Fund (HURF) or HURF-related funds."

Case said the Department is requesting some \$2.1 million in HURF monies to provide for 14 new Highway Patrol officer positions and related support staff which includes two sergeants.

"We are trying to establish a policy or practice of funding the Department with regular but somewhat smaller increases in HP manpower rather than having a feast-or-famine situation where we get zero officers over a certain number of years, then we get 116 over a two-year period. Feast or famine doesn't correspond to our increased workload that more often than not occurs on a gradual basis."

The Department also is requesting slightly more than \$7.1 million to purchase 200 replacement vehicles for the patrol.

"There is a tremendous need for replacement vehicles throughout the Department," Case said.

On the topic of helicopters, Case said the Department would like to replace at least one of its three older helicopters, all of which are at least 19 years old, with a newer, more powerful aircraft.

"This helicopter would be leased-purchased over a three-year period at a cost of \$765,000 per year," Case said.

Case said the Department also is seeking some \$1.2 million to upgrade technology currently in use by the Arizona Criminal Justice Information System.

"We would like to move ACJIS from analog technology to digital technology which we believe would benefit all law enforcement in Arizona," Case said, adding that another \$2 million is being requested for infrastructure repairs and upgrades to the Department's radio and microwave systems.

"Without this upgrade, it is only a matter of time before the radio and microwave systems fail," Case remarked. "As an example, the Department recently had to divert monies from other projects to replace the radio tower on Mt. Lemmon. The tower was suffering from metal fatigue and had to be replaced before it toppled taking with it some expensive radio equipment. We also are requesting a non-lapsing appropriation to complete this project over a two-year period."

Another key item within the Department's budget package "actually doesn't cost the state a dime," Case said. "But, it is very important to the Department."

"We would like to change the GITEM program from a special line item program dedicated only to street gang crime to being part of the CID general budget."

"We understand that this request will face resistance, but we think it is the right thing to do. Since GITEM was established several years ago, the way street gangs operate has changed considerably. They have morphed into something more sophisticated and they often operate more like traditional organized crime."

"In the wake of 9-11, DPS needs more flexibility to adjust to our nation's evolving law enforcement landscape. It simply isn't efficient for DPS to restrict its detectives to one criminal element such as gangs."

"This request would simply transfer the existing GITEM special line item budget into Criminal Investigations. It's a very important request and it's doesn't cost any more dollars. Under this proposal, GITEM would not 'go away.'"

Torch Run ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Arizona Department of Corrections (ADOC) and the Phoenix Police Department assume leadership roles in the fund-raiser.

Last year, even the Tucson Police Department, which is much smaller than DPS in terms of numbers, eclipsed the agency in the amount of funds it raised for the Torch Run.

Sgt. Faith Morgan, who is embarking on her second year as DPS' coordinator for the Torch Run, is not satisfied with the Department's recent performances in the event.

"Our contributions to the Torch Run over the years have never been slight by any means," Morgan said.

"But, I believe DPS can dramatically improve upon its performances of the past few years."

Motivated by DPS' fading legacy in the Torch Run, she has launched a crusade of sorts to propel the agency back to its coveted leadership role in the event.

"It took DPS many years to establish its reputation as a significant contributor to the Torch Run and the agency has a responsibility to keep that reputation intact," said Morgan, adding that the Torch Run not only provides money for Special Olympics but also creates invaluable recognition of mentally- and physically-challenged individuals.

Morgan said she would have no problem watching DPS substantially surpass other agencies this year in the amount of funds it raises for the Torch Run.

"If I sound competitive about wanting to raise more funds than other agencies, it is because I am competitive," said Morgan, who is trying to get DPS employees excited about the Torch Run well before the event begins May 3.

"A little friendly competition among agencies could only be good for the Torch Run as different agencies try to raise more money than one another," Morgan said.

Thankfully, Morgan said DPS will have momentum on its side this year as it attempts to improve its fund-raising position.

"Two years ago DPS was the fifth highest fund-raiser in the state for the Torch Run and last year we were the fourth highest," Morgan said.

"It would make me very happy this year if we could continue that momentum to become the third highest fund-raiser for the event."

This year, Morgan believes DPS can become the third best fund-raiser for the Torch Run by raising \$33,000 during the benefit.

"I believe \$33,000 is a realistic and attainable goal," said Morgan, adding that



A HAPPY AND PROUD CHAMPION

there were times in the late 1980s and early 1990s when DPS easily raised over such amounts in the Torch Run.

Morgan said DPS personnel will be able to raise funds for this year's Torch Run by running in the event and obtaining pledges for doing so.

Agency personnel will also be able to raise funds by selling Torch Run merchandise and by participating in and organizing fund-raising events in their communities.

One of DPS' biggest fund-raisers each year is the golf tournament organized by DPS personnel in the Tucson-area which last year produced more than \$13,000 for the Torch Run. Furthermore, DPS personnel in Yuma organize a baseball tournament each year that benefits Special Olympics.

Another successful fund raiser that occurred last year was the "Tip-a-Cop" event held at the Claim Jumper restaurant in north Phoenix.

DPS officers served as waiters and waitresses during this event with tips they collected going towards the agency's cumulative Torch Run collection.

The "Tip-a-Cop" event will be held at the Claim Jumper restaurant again this year.

In addition, Applebee's Restaurants may soon allow Arizona law enforcement officers to conduct "Tip-a-Cops" at all 24 Applebee's in the Phoenix-area.

A new fund-raising event for the Torch Run that proved to be extremely successful last year was the "all-you-can-eat" lunch-time barbeque held at the DPS headquarters building in Phoenix last April.

The cookout, featuring live music, displays, and raffles, raised more than \$4,500 which went towards DPS' cumulative Torch Run collection.

This year, a similar lunch-time event will

be held April 2 at DPS headquarters. Unlike last year's event, which featured DPS command-level personnel and officers as cooks, this year's cookout will be catered by the Outback Steakhouse (see [photo](#), page 1.)

Meal tickets will be \$10.

"We are hoping to raise at least \$10,000 from the cookout this year alone," said Morgan, adding that such a number would double what was collected last year.

This year, Morgan also wants DPS' new district coordinators for the Torch Run in the rural parts of the state to organize aggressive fund-raising events within their respective communities.

"If the district coordinators need fund-raising ideas, I want them to call me as soon as possible so they can get a head start on their planning," said Morgan.

Morgan said that cooperation and leadership among the Torch Run's district coordinators will be necessary for the agency to see dramatic improvements in its efforts.

The Torch Run itself, which will require many DPS runners, starts May 3 and lasts four days.

During the event, Arizona law enforcement personnel will be tasked with relaying symbolic Special Olympic torches from six starting points along Arizona's border and will cover 2,000 miles of Arizona roadway before ending in Phoenix.

Officers participating in the Wickenburg leg each year are treated to a large breakfast hosted by retired DPS Lt. Col. Larry Thompson and his wife.

When the torches converge in Phoenix, they will be used to light the "Flame of Hope" which will signify the beginning of this year's Special Olympic summer games.

In the end, all funds generated by the Torch Run go directly to Special Olympics, a world-wide charitable organization dedicated to promoting a more active and better quality of life for mentally- and physically-challenged people through involvement in sport.

However, Morgan wants to remind DPS employees that the Torch Run is not just about fund-raising.

"By participating in Torch Run activities, law enforcement personnel help create invaluable recognition of the abilities of individuals who are mentally/physically challenged," Morgan said.

"It also allows participating officers to cultivate a more positive perception of law enforcement."

For more information about the upcoming Torch Run and how to participate, contact Morgan at the Highway Patrol's office in Deer Valley at (623) 879-7249. Morgan can also be contacted through the DPS EMS system, badge no. 3951.

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Down the Highways

January 1944

Investigators said they were uncertain if they will ever determine the cause of a Jan. 6 freight train-bus crash near Kingman that killed 28 U.S. Army servicemen.

The train's engineer told investigators that the train was traveling at about 45 mph when the incident occurred. The engineer also said it appeared that the bus carrying soldiers from the Kingman Gunnery Range had come to a stop before lurching forward onto the railroad tracks.

Only one bus passenger survived the crash that claimed 28 lives, the most in an Arizona traffic crash.

January 1974

Signs lowering the speed limit on Arizona's interstates and highways to 55 mph started going up Jan. 3 in accordance with a new federal law signed Jan. 2 by President Richard M. Nixon establishing a national maximum speed limit of 55 mph.

State Department of Transportation officials said it would take about two weeks to convert the state's speed-limit signs to 55 mph. The 55-mph speed limit in Arizona remained in effect until April 14, 1987, when Gov. Evan Mecham signed legislation allowing for 65-mph speed limits on rural interstates in Arizona.

January 1979

DPS Officers Howard Hughes and Greg Green were having lunch in a north-central Phoenix restaurant Jan. 15 when they observed an elderly man, confined to a wheelchair at a nearby table, choking on a piece of food.

When Hughes arrived at the table, the man was turning blue. Hughes bent the man slightly forward and struck him between the shoulder blades with three sharp blows, dislodging the food.

January 1984

Some 50 DPS officers returned to the Clifton-Morenci area in mid-January after two strike-related rock-throwing incidents damaged some patrol cars and left a working Phelps-Dodge copper miner with a serious eye injury.

The officers were sent to assist 10 DPS officers who were completing temporary assignments in the strike-torn eastern Arizona communities.

During ceremonies Jan. 23 in Phoenix, DPS Highway Patrol Officers Pat Weaver, Tim Lane, Ben Quezada, Jim Milner, Joe Deschaine, Bill Conley and Robert Throop were awarded Ace plates for recovering stolen vehicles.

Throop drew special mention from DPS Director Ralph Milstead for the recovery of 19 stolen vehicles which resulted in 24 arrests.

January 1989

Maybe he needed the money to register his car.

A traffic stop for expired registration developed into something bigger for Tucson DPS Highway Patrol Officer Stanley Barzar.

Barzar stopped a vehicle at 1:42 p.m. Jan. 30 and cited the driver for expired registration. Eighteen minutes later, Barzar received information from the Pima County Sheriff's Office of an armed robbery of a bank.

Barzar responded to the scene and viewed the video tape of the robbery. He recognized the suspect as the motorist he had just stopped. Barzar and PCSO deputies located the suspect and arrested him.

Director Ralph Milstead promoted Rick Ayars from major to lieutenant colonel and

Beau Johnson from lieutenant to captain during ceremonies Jan. 3 in Phoenix. Receiving promotions to sergeant were Dennis Isaacson, John Stein and Bill Whalen.

Ayars became chief of the Criminal Investigation Bureau while Johnson was assigned to the Director's Office. Isaacson was assigned to HPB D-18 while Stein became part of Internal Affairs. Whalen became a sergeant in District 5.

January 1994

DPS began to celebrate its silver anniversary in January with a variety of ceremonies and events as the agency entered its 25th year of service. The anniversary celebration officially kicked off Jan. 26 at DPS Headquarters in Phoenix.

Arizona Gov. Fife Symington attended the event which featured the dedication of the first official DPS flag, a DPS history presentation, and a helicopter flyover honoring DPS officers killed in the line of duty.

More than 300 people attended the event. Several other DPS anniversary celebrations, such as barbeques and open houses, were held throughout the state following the 25th anniversary kick-off celebration in Phoenix.

The Northern Arizona Fraternal Order of Police named Ron Bruce as its DPS officer of the year during its annual awards banquet Jan. 15 in Flagstaff.

Bruce, a Highway Patrol officer assigned to the Gray Mountain area, made some 1,800 traffic stops during the year which resulted in 23 felony arrests and 44 misdemeanor arrests. Bruce, who has been with DPS since 1977, also serves as a field training officer and as a firearms instructor with the Department.